

**LUCY ROBBINS WELLES LIBRARY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
APRIL 13, 2009**

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Paul Crosswaith, Marie Dowling, Dennis Doyle, Anna Eddy, Judy Igielski, Iris Larsson, Maureen O'Connor Lyons, Tony Palermino, Eric Rothauser, Neil Ryan, Diane Stamm, Trudie Walker, Sue Wright

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Sue Halpin

STAFF

Marian Amodeo, Library Director
Gail Whitney, Secretary for the Board

TOWN COUNCIL LIAISONS ABSENT

Kris Nasinnyk

TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON

David Nagel

FRIENDS MEMBER

Natalie Harbeson

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Maureen O'Connor Lyons at 7:06 PM.

I. ROLL CALL

II. SECRETARY'S REPORT/COMMUNICATIONS/MINUTES

MOTION: Judy Igielski made a motion to accept the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of March 9, 2009, Anna Eddy seconded the motion, and the motion to accept the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of March 9, 2009 was unanimously approved with a 13-0 vote.

Judy reported that a resident of Newington, Tony Ruglio, passed away and his obituary stated donations can be made to the Friends of the Library.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Maureen acknowledged Town Council Liaison David Nagel and thanked him and the Town Council for their hard work on the Town's Budget which will be adopted on Tuesday, April 14th.

The new Library Board position will be appointed by the Town Council at the Tuesday, April 14th meeting.

IV. TREASURER'S REPORT

Iris stated she had no report.

V. LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Marian reported that Board had many articles in their packet. The first one she mentioned was from the New York Times about homeless individuals hanging out at the library and becoming violent. She indicated that we have seen some homeless people here and have had to call in Police and Human Services. Staff is encouraging parents to not leave their children unattended as well. The next article was from the Hartford Courant about a businessman who used the Library for research. Marian sent him a note thanking him for his mention of the Library. The third article was about the Palermino scholarship and was in Newington Life.

Marian will be speaking to the Newington Rotary Club on Wednesday. She will mention the book sale and Morningstar, the business data base.

Marian distributed a copy of the Books-by-Mail brochure. This information has been brought to the attention of local senior housing, churches, Senior and Disabled Center, etc. She encouraged the Board to inform people about this service who are temporarily or permanently incapacitated and homebound.

Footnotes has a full calendar of events, and many activities will take place during school vacation April 18th through 25th. Bailey Ortiz, Teen Librarian, has added a section in Footnotes about teen activities.

Another new program will run from June through September and will feature a series for job seekers. The series will include information on how to cope with the loss of a job and resume critiquing. Additionally, the Department of Labor's Career Express Bus will be at the Library on July 9th from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

VI. ASSISTANT LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Lisa was not in attendance.

VII. FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Natalie Harbeson distributed a volunteer sign-up sheet for the Friends book sale which will be held April 30th through May 3rd. The Friends had a booth at the Newington Chamber's Home and Business Showcase where they signed up four new members. They also sold coffee table books, and made money on their raffle.

Natalie also reported that the storage container has been ordered from Eagle Leasing.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. PEP (Planning, Evaluation, Policy)

1. Library Board Opening Update

Neil reported that the Republican Town Committee has nominated Richard Jaworski for this position on the Library Board and the Town Council will officially appoint Mr. Jaworski at their April 14th meeting.

B. Investment Committee

Eric stated he had no report.

C. House Committee

1. Furniture Update
2. Next Project on the List

Diane stated that the House Committee will be meeting after tonight's Board meeting.

D. Facility and Site

Paul reported that he met with the Friends about the storage container area, and with Mike Lenares about the landscaping. Lenares will prepare the area by the chained off driveway for the storage container. He will also begin the cleaning up process of the land next to the Library.

E. Fund Development

Anna reported that the Fund Development Committee has been reviewing the content of the website. The Committee will next schedule appointments with assisted living facilities to discuss the Legacy Society. Anna attended a workshop at the Hartford Public Library sponsored by the Hartford Foundation of Public Giving on fund development. Anna and Marian will be attending a workshop on May 13th.

F. Budget

1. Final Budget Outcome

Trudie reported that the Library went before the Town Council and it went well with the Library incurring a 5% decrease in their budget for books, reference materials, and data bases, along with pay freezes.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

A. 5K Race

Eric reported that the 5K Race Committee met this evening. Keeney Manufacturing, Giantonio Family, DataMail, and Clinical Laboratory Partners will be sponsors of this event. Food donations are down. Kevin Mason has the registration form on-line. Dennis thanked those who have obtained prizes.

B. Friends' Storage Unit Update

This was reported on under the Friends agenda item.

C. Staff Appreciation Event

Anna reported that the Committee met this evening and they are reviewing caterers. Judy and Trudie will handle the invitations.

D. Patriot Act Issues

Eric stated there was no report.

E. Long Range Planning – Assignment in Preparation for the May Visit by Chris Bradley

Chris Bradley will speak to the Board at the May meeting. In the meantime, Town Planner Ed Meehan has asked Town Departments to review the 1995-2005 Plan of Action. This document will be updated and a form has been supplied for ideas for the future of the Town. Marian distributed this form and a copy of the 1995-2005 Plan to the Board. She asked that they review this document and complete this form which will also assist Chris Bradley as she begins the discussion with the Board about future needs. This information is needed for the May meeting.

F. Proposal for Expansion Study

Marian reported that funds for this proposal do not need to come from the Town and there is no need for an RFP. The Board can approve Kaestle Boos to complete this proposal. The Board can interview other companies, however the Town is already working with Kaestle Boos for the Town Hall renovations, and Kaestle Boos did the original Library expansion. Once the proposal has been approved, the project will go out to bid. Dennis felt that Kaestle Boos provided a reasonable estimate to do the proposal.

Eric and Iris agreed and stated that they are already familiar with this building. The proposal will be voted on at the May meeting.

X. NEW BUSINESS

Maureen indicated to the Board that Marian has received an invitation to attend Dr. Perlini's retirement dinner on June 8th. The Board's regularly scheduled meeting is on June 8th. Judy Igielski also received an invitation to this dinner. The Board felt that Marian should attend this dinner and voted to change the June 8th Board meeting to Tuesday, June 9th. Marian will inform the Town Clerk of this meeting change.

A. Marie Dowling's move to Texas

Marie will be moving to Texas in mid-May. Maureen stated that members of the Board have discussed a going-away party for Marie and all decided that the Library is the perfect venue for this party. Marie thanked everyone and agreed with the decision to hold a party in the Library. This party will take place on Friday, May 8th.

B. Appointment of Nominating Committee

Judy Igielski has indicated her desire to fill the corporate position that Marie will be vacating, therefore there will now be a Democrat position open on the Board. The PEP Committee will begin this process.

Marie stated that the Board should make a donation in honor of Dr. Perlini to the Newington Education Foundation. **MOTION: Anna Eddy made a motion to make a donation to the Newington Education Foundation in honor of Dr. Ernest Perlini in the amount of \$100, Sue Wright seconded the motion, all were in favor, and the motion passed unanimously with a 13-0 vote.**

XI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no Public Participation.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Eric Rothauser made a motion to adjourn, Sue Wright seconded the motion, all were in favor, and the motion to adjourn was unanimously accepted with a 13-0 vote at 8:12 PM.